Westfield Retirement System RFP for Investment Advisory Services

Introduction

The Westfield Retirement System (hereinafter, the "System") was established by the Massachusetts Legislature to provide a defined benefit retirement plan for employees of the City of Westfield. Employee benefits and laws governing the System are set forth in Chapter 32 of the Massachusetts General Laws. The Retirement Board manages the System.

As of December 31, 2018, the market value of the system's assets was approximately \$212 million. The System has investments in fourteen (14) asset classes with twenty (20) investment managers.

The Westfield Retirement Board ("Board") is considering the procurement of specific services from an investment advisor. The specific services are:

Risk Mitigation Strategies and their Implementation

Asset Allocation Study

The Board is subject to the oversight and regulations of the Public Employee Retirement Administration Commission (PERAC). The Board is governed by Chapter 32 of Massachusetts General Laws ("Chapter 32") and is a member of the Massachusetts Association of Contributory Retirement Systems.

It is expected that an advisor may be retained for a period of up to seven (7) years. It shall be the primary purpose of the advisor to assist the Board with respect to its asset allocation structure and whether its current investment portfolio and asset allocation is prudent given the Board's liabilities and existing funding schedule. Upon completion of an asset allocation study, the advisor will be expected to advise the Board on strategies that limit overall risk while fulfilling the funding requirements established in Chapter 32.

A copy of the RFP may be obtained by contacting Liam Browne at liam.browne@cityofwestfield.org

Copies are available until the submission date of March 22, 2019.

All responses must be received in writing, by 4:00 PM on March 22, 2019. Late responses will not be considered.